

HAWAIIAN GAZETTE

Entered at the Postoffice of Honolulu, H. T., Second-class Matter
Semi-Weekly—Issued Tuesdays and Fridays.

WALTER G. SMITH, Editor.

Subscription Rates:

Per Month.....\$.25 Per Month, Foreign.....\$.35
Per Year.....\$ 2.50 Per Year, Foreign.....\$ 3.00

Payable Invariably in Advance.

CHARLES S. CRANE, Manager.

FRIDAY : : : : : DECEMBER 18

OFFICIALS WHO TAKE ORDERS.

It appears that the Democratic party may construct and strengthen a local machine without suffering any criticism from the esteemed Advertiser, though the Republicans may not ask that their County committee be listened to without receiving hard knocks and charges of "coercion" of elected officials and lawmakers. The Democrats have elected a man for mayor who promised ahead of the voting day and has often repeated since, that he would be guided by his advisers in the party—the County central committee—modestly admitting for himself a considerable lack of experience in such matters as he expects to be called upon to handle.—Star.

We have yet to learn that the Democrats have gone further than to certify to the party standing of men who want jobs, which is a proper exercise of the committee function. If any small fry politicians among them have held up the duly elected representatives of the people and told them that they must submit to the "perfect control" of a non-elective board of whippers-in, not only as to their legislative bills, but as to their conferences with other party men, the Star will then be able to make its parallel. But even in that case, the matter would not draw fire in this quarter, nor should it. If the Democrats want to adopt the raw devices of bossism and thus prepare the way for their own overthrow, the Advertiser, as a paper of Republican sympathies, has no objection. If it with the good name of the Republican party that this journal is concerned; and when we note the majorities given to Roosevelt, who has fought machine tyranny ever since he became a voter, and to Taft, who began his victorious march to the White House by smashing the Cox-Fraker machine in Ohio, we recognize a party sentiment which makes us loath to see a policy survive here which is bound to completely disrupt the local Republican party in the end. As to Democratic disruption, that is outside our province of appeal and criticism.

As to the inference to be most directly had from the Star, we may say that if Representative Cohen and Supervisor Logan choose to admit such a "considerable lack of experience" that they need help from the Doughnuts in making up their minds how to exercise their rights as citizens and as elected public officials, we shall withdraw all criticism of them for doing so. People who need to be led about should hurry and connect with something, if only an intelligent people. It is proper to say, however, that neither gentleman has yet given signs of distress.

THE FLYING AUTO NUISANCE.

In handling the automobile speed problem, the police deal lightly with the scorchers who imperil life and limb because they fear to offend the auto owners who do not. Naturally this treatment is no remedy for the ills that auto scorching has brought upon us. If a law sharply regulating the ownership and use of deadly weapons should not be enforced against thugs because it might annoy sportsmen, the thugs would soon have their own way, just as the scorchers do now. The only safe procedure is to have a stiff statute and to compel respect for it. Law-abiding people can not be harmed by such a law, and if lawless people are that it is their own fault and they have no cause to expect sympathy. As to autos, the rights of the people to be protected from their bursts of speed are paramount to the rights of those who like to ride fast; and if the authorities would act inflexibly from this standpoint there would be no further trouble.

If there is not law enough to cover this emergency, there is an easy way to get more as soon as the Legislature meets. For the safety of the public the license of chauffeurs or owners acting as such should be revocable, after the fashion of other licenses, when the law governing the speed with which vehicles traverse the streets and roads has been violated by them and conviction ensues. This should be in addition, of course, to whatever sentence might follow a criminal action. If every chauffeur knew that his right to drive a machine at all depended on his obedience to the speed law, we should soon see the last of the flying juggernaut with a drunken driver and crew which imperils life on Honolulu streets at night, and of the dashaway, cut-the-corner motoring which prevails at all hours. There should be law enough now to stop that sort of thing. Is it not absurd that a man who urges a horse in the streets at more than twelve miles an hour may be arrested for "fast and furious driving," while an autist who charges down a public thoroughfare at the rate of from twenty to forty miles an hour, honking insolently for the wayfarer to cut and run, goes scot free? But for police negligence in some cases and the worship of technical distinctions in the police court in others, we should long ago have landed a few goggled Jehus in jail. They may get there yet.

AID FROM CULTURED SOCIETY.

A girl of twenty, who assures the Governor that her character is pure and clean, that she is a fresh student from the heart of "America's best cultured society," and believes that she would be an inspiration to the public school children in these "provinces," wants to come to Hawaii and teach. Here is help at last. If the Advertiser has any influence with the chiefs, this sweet young girl shall have a chance. She would be, in every respect, what is known in the tattoo circle of the Kill and Hammer poi club as an Acquisition; and in this savage wilderness she would soon attain the eminence of a Guardian Angel. All too long have we Hawaiians been taught in the sign-language by acid-faced missionaries and vulgar beach-combers, the one undoing the influence of the other and leaving us perplexed with doubt as to whether we should feed the soul or the appetite first. Doubts like these have increased our natural ferocity and there have been outbreaks which made the landing of marines from foreign warships necessary. It seems to this paper that the time has come for a trial of "sweetness and light." The young girl "from the heart of America's best cultured society," which we understand to be a Normal School in the Middle West of the Bryan provinces of Sioux City, appears to meet the need as none of the more recent missionary incursions ever did. Under her gentle influence we think that this people will soon see the need of wearing clothes; and that the practice of living in trees and especially that of public school pupils sitting in shallow pools while reciting their lessons and disporting themselves without regard to appearances, will cease. Of course, it will take time and perseverance to make these changes in ancient habit, but the "mild power cures" in dealing with the problems of anthropology as it does with those of civilized medicine. Let us assure the tender young reformer that she will be protected during her stay here and have the best wishes of everyone, especially of those white families whose nurseries have been decimated by cannibals and who are likely to abandon those fine domestic institutions altogether unless the hill tribes can be brought under Normal School culture.

THEATRICALS.

The signing of Robert Mantell to play here in April is, we suppose, a venture toward finding out if the dramatic public has grown large enough to sustain good plays and players. If so, other fine dramatic artists may be expected to follow Mantell, eventually giving Honolulu something better than the hectic seasons of vaudeville and cheap melodrama that now obtain.

The military and naval development here is quite certain to make good theatrical ventures pay better; or rather, the growth in population that must go with and follow such development, may be expected to do so. A dependable, well-to-do play-going element of two thousand people should supply the Opera House with average audiences for good things of at least six hundred. Between now and 1912 such a clientele ought to be gathered. Nearly all the Army and Navy people will be counted into it; a fair proportion of the new civil population can be made sure of, and as the railways go farther afield and their passenger rates come down, people from the country will be attracted. The small boom Honolulu had in 1900-1 made the Wardie engagement pay; in fact, that artist carried away \$3000 in profits—so what may not be expected of the rapid and healthy growth in the census which seems now impending, to say nothing of the tourist visitation.

A recent article in the World's Work speaks badly of the south Italian as agricultural immigrants of the south, highly of the North Italians, highly of the Germans and Poles, and poorly of the English colonists.

POOR LIGHT ON HAWAII.

Quoting a leaf from a promotion primer, which advises Americans to come here with means to launch themselves in some enterprise rather than to seek work, the Chicago Record-Herald says:

This shows unusual restraint on the part of the Promotion Committee. But it keeps close to the facts, much closer than some of our American politicians who, in their enthusiasm over expansion, talk of breaking up the little Territory into small holdings for American farmers. There will be no such division, and there is no conceivable land law that could bring it about. The big sugar plantations will remain, the influence of corporations will be felt in new industries.

In the first place there is no plan to "break up the little Territory into small holdings for American farmers" which would intrude, in any degree, upon the plantations; but there is a plan, which is being worked out under the law as it stands, and will be especially aided by the law in preparation, to put farmers on the great area of land not required for sugar. In various parts of the Islands today such land is being occupied by farmers who are raising tropical and other products and doing it well, in spite of adverse freight rates to market. Kona has many such American farmers at Wahiawa soon became prosperous enough to combine on a large scale; but others on this and the other islands are pushing on alone, with as large an average of success as settlers on new land, with limited transportation, find anywhere. There are five reasons for an American farmer to settle on our fertile uplands and raise products which the mainland wants and does not produce for itself, that there were for farmers to take up the arid mesas and dry valleys of Southern California; and there will be ten reasons when the military come here and not only create a greater market for everyday food products but make the necessity clear for American small farming as a part of the economy of a war-base which must always be ready to withstand a siege.

MAKING A MARKET FOR FRUIT.

It is less than forty years ago that a banana was a curiosity in the rural counties of New York state, within seventy-five or one hundred miles of the greatest port of the nation. Bananas were plentiful enough in New York city, and, being of the red-skinned kind, were more costly than the yellow variety so common now; but the country folks were conservative on the subject of "city eatin'" and it took a good while to start up a rural banana trade. First, the product had to be cheapened, and this brought about a substitution of the yellow-skinned for the red-skinned fruit, the latter, because of the comparatively feeble productiveness of its plants, bringing the larger price. Gradually the yellow banana made its way, helped, no doubt, by the published assurances that it was a good substitute for some of the foods that were native to the soil.

The pineapple, which came in at the same time from the West Indies, lagged behind the banana in popularity. It was the same small, stunted, acid fruit which excited the derision of George IV, and his table guests when it was first taken over to England from Jamaica. One found it hard to get a taste for such a mouth-puckering luxury. Eventually the use of pineapple flavoring for soda water, punches, etc., gave the fresh fruit a little more vogue, and the canned article came into a fair amount of use. But until Hawaiian pines entered the market, the fruit was not worth the name it was trying to acquire as a table delicacy.

The Hawaiian pine suffers, of course, because of the quality of the customary fruit; but we have no doubt that competent advertising can remedy all this. There is little that the skilful advertiser can not do, as witness the fortunes he has made for the patentees of all sorts of soap, of needless breakfast foods, of patent medicines, of superfluous brands of flour and a thousand-and-one other things of varying utility. With a really fine product like Hawaiian pines, competent advertising should be able to strain the resources of our soil to supply the demand.

SPRECKELS ON CIVIC DUTY.

The "best man propaganda" had a stirring exposition at the Commercial Club yesterday when Rudolph Spreckels made his address on the Civic Reform of San Francisco. Mr. Spreckels has dealt with intrenched civic villainy at first hand; he clearly sees the relationship to it of conscienceless party machines; and he finds in whatever willingness may still survive among otherwise good citizens to support yellow dogs for office, if they are on the party ticket, one of the strongest encouragements to boss rule and the reign of civic graft.

The reception given to Mr. Spreckels' strong words for an independent course in municipal affairs was sincerely cordial and appreciative as, indeed, was the reception of everything he said. It was not merely courtesy; it was a sign of the deepening feeling in this city that the conduct of our home affairs is a matter of business and not of politics, and that the less the feed-trough variety of politicians are allowed to participate in it the better for the taxpayers.

The fact is, that the Advertiser, like The Star, accepted advertising from both the Republicans and Democrats in the recent campaign. If the morning paper, for its own reasons, be what they may, refused one advertisement which The Star accepted, the principle remains the same. We don't suppose the Advertiser's policy was affected in any way by its refusal, any more than its policy would have been affected by acceptance, of the advertisement in question. Nor was The Star's—the paper publishing the advertisement editorially attacked the candidate for whom it was published, just as the Advertiser attacked various candidates whose advertisements were in its columns.—Star.

Bosh. The Advertiser sold no space to the Democrats to make their arguments in, refusing a fine offer to do so, which The Star quickly accepted. Now that paper has the assurance to question the Advertiser's Republicanism because of its course in the late campaign—a course which did not involve the support of a single Democratic candidate.

It has cost Hawaii \$104,318.61 since 1900 to keep down infectious diseases, some of which, if allowed to spread, would have menaced coast ports. The worst of these diseases have been brought here from the Orient and the cost of fighting them should have been largely shared, if not wholly assumed, by the Federal government which, when the plague entered Seattle, took as complete a burden of responsibility as it had previously done at Santiago and Havana, Cuba, at Manila, at Jacksonville, Florida, and Galveston, Texas. By special appropriation of \$200,000 Congress provided for the battle with the plague at San Francisco. Very little has been done here, and as the Governor has called for the data of our local outlay, we assume that he is trying to get the Federal government to take hold of sanitation in Hawaii and relieve the local treasury and the local capitalists of the burden under which they now labor. Whatever can be saved from the sanitary expenses of the Territory can be profitably used for the schools.

The President is growing fussy as his term nears its close, especially over things he sees in the papers. Twice within a fortnight he has threatened to bring libel suits and once he has written a wrathful letter about "mendacious newspaper men." In each case the complaint was not personal—it was directed against the comment upon the Panama canal and other enterprises which Mr. Roosevelt, in his public capacity, has at heart. As everybody knows that libel suits brought under such circumstances would be very far-fetched and that the President, on account of his coming trip to Africa, would not be able to follow them up for two years or more, the impression made by his threats is simply that of undignified bluffing. Mr. Roosevelt should remember his position; also the fact that the one time the great Napoleon awoke the ridicule of Europe was when he threatened to bring libel suits against the London papers.

The Salvation Army should not ask for Christmas cheer in vain. There is no more industrious, unselfish helper of the poor and needy in these Islands. The further its work is looked into, the keener the sympathy one must feel. On an occasion, not long ago, when a reporter asked one of the women in charge of the Rescue Home what her salary was, she answered apologetically that it had been raised to \$3 per week, as she simply could not get along and help people on any less. Ten dollars a week is the pay of an officer in charge, a man of family, and he expects to give some alms from that. These Salvationists penetrate the deepest slums in the hope of redeeming both souls and bodies, and they burden themselves with the care of helpless women and children until they are on the verge of debt or well over it. Such self-abnegating workers deserve the utmost public generosity.

The Venezuelans, who have trembled for years at the frown of Castro, are doing brave things in his absence. Believing that, if he tries to return, the Dutch will capture him, they are stoning his friends, defacing his statues and chiseling out the laudatory inscriptions on them. It would serve these cowardly folk right, if Castro should run the blockade and resume his official post. The chances are, that they would tumble over each other in the effort to get to him first with their state's evidence.

In the light of its political course, and the aid it gave to Democracy in the late campaign, many people had forgotten that the Advertiser was Republican.—Star.

Indeed! Perhaps they don't recall the refusal of the Advertiser to accept, on its own terms, the elaborate attack on the Republican candidate for Congress which the Star accepted and published for what it could get.

The extension of Bishop street and the purchase of the Spreckels holdings by capitalists who live here mean improvements which will be needed to house the new business which is certain to grow up in the next few years. The Cooke syndicate is taking time by the forelock. It would be a good thing for all concerned if local capitalists would also aid the growth of the residence districts. The pressure on them for suitable homes is becoming strong and, within a year, may be imperative.

The address of Rudolph Spreckels at the Commercial club today, on the Civic Reform of San Francisco, should be worth hearing, not only because of the ability of the speaker and the interest of the theme, but because if Honolulu ever passes under the control of the enemies of the "best man propaganda" it may develop a similar problem.

The building of the Brazilian Dreadnoughts may account for the Argentine war budget of \$75,000,000. Brazil has a militant fever and it is natural that her neighbors should take alarm. Probably the Argentine money will be partially spent in the big ship market, the rest going into forts and modern guns.

It is gratifying to know that American merchants can find an open door in China, but unless Congress enables American steamship lines to compete with foreign ones in the transpacific trade, those merchants will have to ship their products in alien bottoms.

If the police department wants a real secret service, it should connect with Pinkerton and employ good men in quarterly rotation. Some real detecting would be done then and the mere presence of a Pinkerton sleuth would be a terror to evil-doers.

The news that the Pearl Harbor drydock would be "about 1200 feet in the clear" was published some weeks ago in these columns on the authority of the Navy Department. It is going to be the largest and best drydock of the largest and best naval station under the flag.

What is the difference to the average night wayfarer, between a wild bull in the street who aches to toss him over a fence and an auto with a drunken man driving it who had just as soon do it as not?

Debs got 447,651 votes for President. The country has grown since Andrew Jackson first ran for President and was elected on a vote of 155,872, which gave him a plurality of 50,551.

The General Baron Inouye, who lately died, was an officer of the war of restoration in Japan, but took no active part in the war with Russia.

The lady—appropriately named Catt—who called the President a "green tree toad," has been added to the list of nature-fakers.

If Sheriff Jarrett will enforce the speed law on the streets, it will be more to the point than some of the other reforms he proposes.

The gist of the Supreme Court decision in the Liliha street case is that the courts have no control over the Rapid Transit schedules.

It is a question if it wouldn't be cheaper to keep the Governor's private secretary at home.

It will be a sad day for the Sultan if the Ottoman parliament develops another Uncle Joe Cannon.

The non-crossing of the Chinese gambling cases appears to have been a trifle too raw.

Why is it that the attorney for Isai keeps so much in the background?

HARBOR DREDGING WORK
READY TO BE ACCEPTED

A conference was held yesterday afternoon between Major Winslow, Corps of Engineers, and representatives of the contractors who have been dredging the harbor. The contractors notified Major Winslow that they had completed the work and awaited the decision of the engineer as to whether it was acceptable.

Major Winslow stated yesterday afternoon that the contractors had completed the big contract and that the engineer office was now making final soundings to ascertain whether all lumps on the floor of the harbor had been removed. The contractors, when the job is finally accepted by the government in a couple of days, will be paid the final portion of the contract money, the entire work amounting to nearly \$400,000. The work was completed eight or nine months ahead of the allotted time, and is regarded as excellent. The result is a great enlargement of the harbor area, particularly where the old lighthouse formerly stood. This old site has been entirely dredged out and the lighthouse is now built on the new sand island, and will have its lantern soon.

HONOLULU BIDS
HIGH AND LOW
NEGOTIATIONS NOT
YET UNDER WAY.

Honolulu contractors supplied the highest and the lowest bids for the dredging of Pearl Harbor and the channel, Dillingham putting in the lowest and Hoogs & Belser the highest. The other bids, all by mainland contractors, were sandwiched in between. Robert Atkinson, of the Dillingham dredging interests received information from Walter Dillingham in yesterday's mail, but his letters were written before the award of the contract was made to him. The various bids were as follows:

Dillingham, \$3,560,000; R. A. Perry, \$3,662,848; Coastwise Dredging Company, \$4,300,000; American Dredging Company, \$4,937,312; Hoogs & Belser, \$5,231,000.

Mr. Dillingham wrote that George Denison, superintendent of the Oahu Railway Company, who went to Washington with Mr. Dillingham, had gone to Florida to inspect some dredging work being done there under conditions similar to those which will be encountered at Pearl Harbor.

The dredging outfits of the Dillingham Company in these waters are in readiness to be put to work. The dredger Governor and the Reclamation have just finished the Honolulu harbor work and can be sent to Pearl Harbor any time. Other outfits and supplies will be ordered on the mainland by Messrs. Dillingham and Denison.

The contract calls for a 35-foot depth in the channel and harbor, and not 32 feet, as has sometimes been stated.

The contractors for the Honolulu harbor dredging, who have finished their work, state that the retaining wall which they had to build for the retention of the harbor muck on Sand Island was a somewhat expensive matter. It has been found satisfactory in every way by the government inspectors.